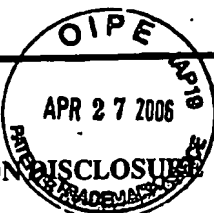


FORM PTO/SB/08A/B (10-01)
Substitute for PTO-1449A/B

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)



Attorney Docket Number	56524/B884
Application Number	10/726,177
Filing Date	December 1, 2003
Applicant(s)	Wilfried Matthis, et al.
Group Art Unit	3733
Examiner Name	Annette R. Reimers

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	DOCUMENT NUMBER Number - Kind Code ² (If Known)	PUBLICATION DATE MM-DD-YYYY	NAME OF PATENTEE
AR		5,443,467	08-22-1995	Biedermann et al.
AR		US 2002/0138076 A1	09-26-2002	Biedermann et al.
AR		US 2003/0125741 A1	07-03-2003	Biedermann et al.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ² - Number ³ - Kind Code ⁴ (If Known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	T ^d (✓)
AR		DE 199 12 364 A1 (Previously Provided)	10/12/2000	Brehm	Partial translation

OTHER DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

CKS PAS677907.1--04/24/06 3:22 PM

EXAMINER SIGNATURE	/Annette R. Reimers/	DATE CONSIDERED	06/11/06
--------------------	----------------------	-----------------	----------

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.pto.gov or MPEP 901.4. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.

Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

MEG/cks

Sheet 1 of 1